



An Initiative for Public Safety

VIOLENT CRIME

What is a 'violent crime'? For California's new parole law, the definition is murky — and it matters *(Los Angeles Times)*

- Expands the list of violent crimes for which early release is not an option
- Under current law, rape of an unconscious person, trafficking a child for sex, assault of a peace officer, felony domestic violence and other similar crimes are not classified as “violent felonies” — making criminals convicted of these crimes eligible for early release

DNA COLLECTION

California's DNA database gets fewer hits due to Prop. 47 (KCRA)

- Reinstates DNA collection for certain crimes that were reduced to misdemeanors as part of Proposition 47
- Multiple studies have shown that DNA collected from theft and drug crimes has helped solve other violent crimes, including robbery, rape and murder. Since passage of Prop. 47, cold case hits have dropped over 2,000, with more than 450 of those hits connected to violent crimes

SERIAL THEFT

**An explosion of California property crimes
— due to Prop. 47** *(San Francisco Chronicle)*

- Revises the theft threshold by adding a felony for serial theft — when a person is caught for the 3rd time stealing with a value of \$250
- Prop. 47 changed the dollar threshold for theft to be considered a felony — from \$450 to \$950. As a result, studies show theft has increased 12% to 25%, with losses of a billion dollars since the law was passed

PAROLE VIOLATIONS

**Suspect in Whittier police officer shooting death
arrested 5 times in last 7 months** *(Whittier Daily News)*

- Requires the Board of Parole Hearings to consider an inmate's entire criminal history when deciding parole, not just his most recent commitment offense; and requires a mandatory hearing to determine whether parole should be revoked for any parolee who violates the terms of his parole for the third time
- AB 109 bases parole solely on an offender's commitment offense, resulting in the release of inmates with serious and violent criminal histories. Moreover, parolees who repeatedly violate the terms of their parole currently face few consequences, allowing them to remain on the street



For more information, please contact Richard Temple at 916-447-8186 or Jeff Flint at 916-320-9574.